

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IGA-02 OMB-01 CIEP-03 TRSE-00

SP-03 L-03 H-03 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-07

NSC-07 SS-20 EB-11 DRC-01 /143 W

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P 271510Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6222

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, NI, US

SUBJ: FUTURE OF AID PROGRAM

REF: (A) STATE 210996

(B) STATE 213017

(C) LAGOS A-171

1. REF A ASKED FOR CT REACTIONS TO CERTAIN QUESTIONS RE FUTURE OF AID PROGRAM. I HAVE INITIATED A CT ASSESSMENT, BUT THE REPORT WILL NOT BE READY PRIOR OCTOBER 1 MEETING WITH EBONG. OUR MOST RECENT GENERAL APPRAISAL, LAGOS A-171, IS STILL VALID, FULLY REPRESENTS MY VIEWS AND THOSE OF RELEVANT EMBASSY OFFICERS, THOUGH THE THEN ACTING USAID DIRECTOR EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS IN HIS AUGUST 5 LETTER TO DR. ADAMS. I HAVE A CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONAL SYMPATHY WITH THESE RESERVATIONS, BUT REF A CONVINCES ME EVEN MORE THAT REF C POINTS ONLY REALISTIC WAY TO FUTURE.

2. PENDING COMPLETION OF CT STUDY OF REF A, THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ARE MY VIEWS, BUT ARE NOT LIKELY VARY ESSENTIALLY FROM RESULTS OF FULLER STUDY: (A) I HAVE SERIOUS DOUBTS THAT OCTOBER 1 MEETING SHOULD DO MORE THAN INDICATE TO EBONG THE GENERAL DRIFT OF THE PROGRAM. DETAILED EXPLANATIONS SHOULD BE AVOIDED UNTIL WE ALL ARE MORE CERTAIN OF PROPOSALS. (B) THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON THE BASIC THESIS OF REF A.

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3. MORE SPECIFICALLY AND IN LINE WITH THE THREE QUESTIONS RAISED:

(A) YES, AS OUTLINED IN REF C, WE FEEL THAT A MODEST US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PRESENCE IS NECESSARY, INDEED ALONG THE LINES PREVIOUSLY DESCRIBED. OBVIOUSLY IT WILL BE QUIRE MODEST WITHOUT CONCESSIONAL AID, BUT THE BLOC GRANT, AS LONG AS IT LASTS, AND THE FACILITATIVE UMBRELLA WILL BE THE PRINCIPAL INSTRUMENTS. WE WILL BE MORE SPECIFIC RE FACILITATION AFTER CT MEETING OCTOBER 2. (B) THERE IS UNANIMITY THAT NO REPEAT NO HIGH LEVEL PRESENTATION SHOULD BE MADE TO FMG, LEST WE INEVITABLY PERMIT CERTAIN ELEMENTS UNDULY STRESS US WITHDRAWAL, CONNECT ALLEGED WITHDRAWAL WITH ALLEGED PRESSURE RE OIL PRICES, AND PREMATURELY COMPLICATE FACILITATION PROGRAM. CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED LOCAL EXPLANATIONS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF FMG MUCH PREFERABLE. WE PREDICT FAVORABLE FMG RESPONSE IF WE FOLLOW THIS PATTERN AND IF WE ABLE TALK IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BENEFITS FACILITATION WILL OFFER NIGERIA. (C) CLEARLY MISSION STAFF WILL BE GREATLY REDUCED AFTER FY 75-76, THAT IS, AFTER CESSATION CONCESSIONAL AID AND FULFILLMENT PRESENT COMMITMENTS. PENDING FURTHER STUDY AND A CLEARER EXPLANATION OF FACILITATION, I AM UNWILLING TO VENTURE A STAFF FIGURE.

4. HOPE TO FORWARD CT REACTION(S) NLT OCTOBER 4.

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